

## NEWS OF THE MINING WORLD.

**THE BLACK HILLS ADDED \$7,500,000 TO OUR WEALTH LAST YEAR.**

Cheerful Outlook in the Idaho Diggings—Nearly Every Promising Gold Prospect in New Mexico is Being Worked—Mining Turquoise that is Equalled Only by the Persian Gem—Gen. Weaver's Tour of Arizona—Cryolite Said to Exist in Paying Quantities in the Cheyenne Mountains.

Deadwood, Jan. 13.—According to conservative estimates of the production in bullion from the mines of this section for 1892, \$7,500,000 has been produced. Of this \$5,750,000 is known to have been produced at the reduction plants in and about this city. The other \$2,000,000 represents the value of ore shipped to outside plants for treatment by individual prospectors. Bullion produced was as follows: Homestake Company, \$3,000,000; Golden Reward Works, \$900,000; Consolidated Works, \$600,000; D. A. D. Smetter, \$500,000; Welcome Works, \$400,000; J. R. Mill, \$48,000; Ruth Lower Mill, \$90,000; Columbia Mill, \$80,000; Watson Mill, \$48,000.

The year 1892 was a very prosperous one for the Hills. The big companies operating here made a good showing, distributing profits to the stockholders to the total amount of \$402,000. The quota of the several companies was as follows:

Homestake, \$150,000; Deadwood Terra, \$100,000; Golden Reward, \$90,000; Caledonia, \$50,000; Buxton, \$20,000; Monitor, \$22,000.

Over \$4,000,000 worth of mining property changed hands during the year. An average of twenty cars of ore per day was shipped by the narrow gauge Elkhorn Railroad, fifteen by the Deadwood Central, and twenty by the Burlington. The transportation accounts on ore shipments, both local and foreign, total up over \$500,000.

The census of last year shows that fully 85 percent of the adult male population of the Black Hills are engaged in mining in one capacity or another. The great Homestake Mining Company employs 3,000 men. The Golden Reward and several other large mines 250. The wages and salaries of the Homestake Company annually total up \$800,000.

IDAHO CITY, Jan. 13.—In Diamond Basin, on the south side of Snake River, in Owyhee county, several very promising gold quartz mines have been found within the past two weeks. Assays runnings as high as \$40 per ton have been obtained. The air compressor and machinery for the long tunnel, at rameau, has arrived on the ground and will be put in position as soon as possible.

Mr. Schermerhorn has sold off of a coal mine at Horseshoe Bend that he thinks will prove a bonanza. He has put several men doing development work. The vein is large and Mr. Schermerhorn believes the fields are practically inexhaustible. Several others are at work developing other locations in the neighborhood.

The trustees of the Boise County Mining Company are making arrangements for new machinery. After that is procured work will be resumed. It is believed that only a few feet more will have to be sunk to reach the granite bedrock. If no gravel is found large Cornish pumps will be ordered without delay.

Good ore is coming out of three or four of the mines of Shaw's Mountain district, between this place and Boise City. A new mill has been erected, which commenced crushing several days ago. The ore is free gold and pays well.

The Blaine tunnel at Silver City, in over 2,000 feet of rock, the job is well along. Superintendant Smith reports good progress. The mill will be a mile and a half north of the mine. Its capacity will be fifteen tons a day. It is expected that when it is completed the gold will be extracted. Then it will pass over the plates and the tree gold will be saved in concentrate. This is a canary concentrator.

The mine will furnish employment for fifteen men. Enough ore is now on the dump to keep the mill running for a month. The work for the next year will be taken from within twenty feet of the surface.

The work on the Lusk Mine below the water tanks is progressing well, with satisfying results. The shaft is down 200 feet below the water level. Some of the richest ore ever taken out in the camp is being used in the treatment of the ore. The best feature of the ore is the high percentage of gold which it carries. The ore carrying more than depth is attained. During the first year of its existence the ore was assayed as high as \$420 in silver and \$340 in gold, or \$160 per ton. The American Turquoise Mining Company declared a dividend of \$100,000 last month. This company is now the principal producer of turquoise in the world, and has mines in the United States, Canada, New Mexico. These mines were worked many years ago, as is shown by the old dumps, but of late years very little attention has been given to them. The stones found are only equalled by the Persian turquoise. The mines belong to the same company that is working the turquoise mines of Cochise county, Arizona.

Gen. Weaver, the advocate of free coinage of silver, will be in Arizona and make a tour of the country to develop the property of the interest of that metal. He will deliver two speeches in Tucson this month.

COLORADO.

LEADVILLE, Jan. 21.—The old Baswick mine is still active, with a small amount of ore being taken from the American continent, "the greatest on the American continent," is at last free from litigation, and to-morrow will once more begin to produce. The new president of the Nicargua Canal Company, and Macey Taber, and Henri F. Seelick of Denver, the history of whom is well known, are engaged in the work. It was located by an old prospector who had mined in the Transvaal, Australia, and California before turning to Colorado. He began to work the old man when he began digging in the hill above the town, but he had a little money and informed everybody that there was no gold there. His wife assisted him by doing washing, but there was little of this to do. He put down hole after hole, and finally struck the vein which he had been seeking for some time. The discoverer operated the mine on his own account, and it was sold on a payment plan, made on a part of the product, and the price was \$100 a ton. A certificate of existence to-day shows that one load of ore weighing 2,300 pounds, netted a return from the mine of \$10,000. The mine is now closed, but the Baswick cleared over \$600,000 from the property.

The mine was then sold to a syndicate and the owner removed to Colorado for his health, and died there. The mine is now owned by the Baswick Mining Company, the management was given to Frank C. Brown. This mine is claimed to be the largest in the state, and no ore was shipped that assayed less than \$100 per ton. Notwithstanding this, \$2,000,000 in gold was taken from the mine, and the cost of production of its operation. Then a dispute arose between the principal owners, with the result that no one, until recently, has been able to get any ore out of the mine. The mine is now owned by a number of leasers.

A great deal of work is going on in Smoky district, and the amount of ore will be shipped from there next month. Eight men are at work extracting ore.

The Ketchum smelters, which have been idle for a year, will be ready to take 50 tons of ore per day, and will have an expense of \$100 per ton. With this encouragement, many small mines have resumed work, and will add much to the output. The miners are getting double the ore at home hundreds of small mines in that country can be made to pay handsomely.

All is now pending in the Idaho Legislature providing for the construction of a wagon road through the State. If constructed this road will open up thousands of miles of the best mineral land in the West. The rich mines of Deadwood, Johnson, Sheep Mountain, Seafoam, and the Middle Salmon district are now being developed, and no one has ever failed to receive their regular monthly dividends. Dave Coughanour, one of the owners of the mine, is building a large house in the town of Ophir, and will have a good deal of work to do.

The group of mines in Sheep Creek, known as the Sheep Creek district, Sherman and Gen. Logan, are showing considerable improvement, and a fine quality of ore is being received.

Pittsburgh men have inspected the cryolite mines in the Cheyenne Mountain district. The ore in these mountains is highly spoken of, and is said to be in paying quantities.

The Phillips diamond district, in Gunnison county, has sunk a sixty-foot shaft, and a streak of iron pyrite has been uncovered which runs \$110 a ton. The mine is now being developed, and will result in enormous deposits of low-grade ore are said to be uncovered.

The Rice Sampling Works, with a capacity of 100 tons, has commenced operations.

NEW MEXICO.

SILVER CITY, Jan. 17.—Operations are to be resumed on an extensive scale in the Mineral Point, the Mineral Point, and the Mineral Key Mining and Milling Company, after having operated the mine for over three years, failed to make a profit a year ago. At the time of the failure the mine was worked to a depth of 600 feet. Below the 600-foot level the ore was found to be lower grade than that in the upper levels, and the mine was suspended. The mine is in debt, and was obliged to suspend operations.

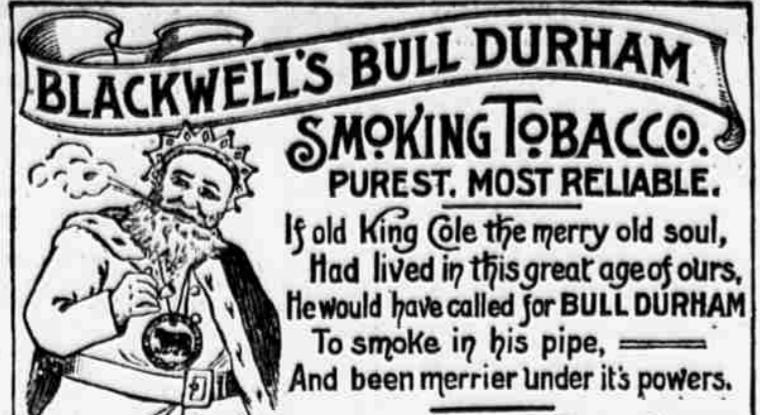
Since that time individual leases have been taken out, and the mine has been making good wages. The mine is now being operated by practical miners, and will undoubtedly be made to pay. The average annual output of the mine, while it was being operated by the miners, was over \$10,000, and regular dividends were paid for some time, during which period the Mountaineer King was the largest producer in the state.

The mine is now being operated by the Miners' Association, and the Mountaineer King will be much larger than it was last year. The Pacific Gold Company, which has been operating the mine since 1888, has taken out a lease for the mine, and will start up in July.

The assessment work on the Mineral Point Zinc Company's mine at Hanover has been completed, and the results show that the zinc mine will remain idle until it is necessary to do the assessment work again. Large quantities of zinc have been shipped from the mine to work in the East. A plan is under consideration to mine the zinc in the mine, and two mills are kept busy on custom work.

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The Old King Company's mill will be in operation about six weeks. The pipe line which will convey water to the mill is nearly completed, and the rest of the machinery for the mill is now on the way from the railroad



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**Miscellaneous.**

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